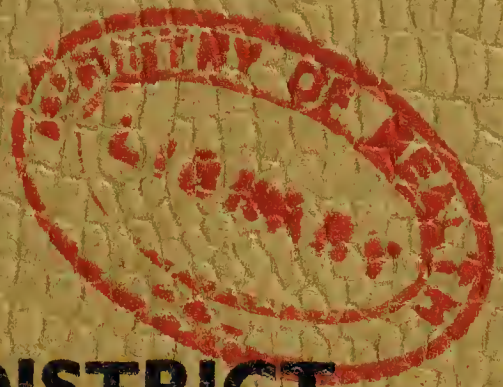


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SANDY URBAN DISTRICT.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

YEAR 1938

OF

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector.

SANDY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions prevailing in your district for the year 1938.

This report has been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health's Circular 1728 of October 25th 1938.

SECTION A.

General Statistics.

Area (Acres)	4,362
Population (1931) Census	3,148
Population (Reg. Gen. Estimate, Mid-year 1938)	3,243
Number of inhabited houses (1938)	1,130
Rateable Value	£13,896
Sum represented by a penny rate	£51 0s. 0d.

Social Conditions.

The chief industry of the district is that of Market Gardening. Farming is also carried on but to a lesser extent.

Unemployment.

The following table shows the principal figures of the County on April 17th, 1939 :—

Bedfordshire	5.0
Bedford	3.8
Dunstable	9.9
Leighton Buzzard	6.3
Luton	4.5
Biggleswade	7.8

There is no trade carried on in your district prejudicial to the health of those employed and the lack of employment has not exercised any adverse influence on the health or physique of the children or adults.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

		Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births	{ Legitimate	31	14	17
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0

Giving a birth rate of 9.5 per 1000 of the resident population.

The corresponding figure for England and Wales being 15.1.

		Total.	Males.	Females.
Still Births	{ Legitimate	5	3	2
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0

Giving a rate of 138.8 per 1000 births (live and still).

DEATHS.

All causes :—

Total.	Males.	Females.
33	14	19

Giving a death rate of 10.17 per 1000 of the resident population. When this is multiplied by the comparability factor it is reduced to 8.3.

The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 11.6.

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List.) Deaths—Nil. Rates per 1000 total (live and still) births—Nil.

No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	0
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes	...	..	...	0
Total					0

Maternal mortality for England and Wales—

Puerperal Sepsis per 1000 live and still births	...	.86
Others per 1000 live and still births	...	2.11
Total		2.97

Death rate of infants under one year of age—Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	8
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	0

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year. The following table gives the cause of death :—

						Males.	Females.
1.	Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
2.	Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0	0
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	1
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	0	0
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	0	0
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	0	1
10.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	0	0
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabis Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	0	0
13.	Cancer (Malignant Disease)	...	...	...	...	3	5
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	0
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	1	1
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	4	2
17.	Aneurym	...	...	...	...	0	0
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	4
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	1	1
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	0	0
23.	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	0	0
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	0	0
26.	Other Liver Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	2	1
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	0
30.	Other Puerperal Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
31.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	0	0
32.	Senility	...	...	...	...	0	2
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	0
34.	Other Deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	0	0
35.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
36.	Ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0
						14	19

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for this Area.

(i.) Public Health Officers of this Authority.

Medical Officer of Health, (Part time)—Dr. W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.M.R.E. Camb., D.P.H. Camb.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. T. Douglas, F.S.I.A., F.Inst.P.C., A.Inst.M.E.

(ii.) (a.) Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Arrangements are made whereby medical men practising in the district can obtain free Bacteriological Examinations in cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Tuberculosis and Meningitis. These examinations are carried out by the Lister Institute, as the Council does not possess the necessary fitted laboratory.

Throat Swabs examined for Diphtheria ... 6

Provision of Antitoxin.

Medical men practising in this district can obtain a free supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin. It is kept at the Isolation Hospital, Potton Road, Biggleswade, and doctors can obtain it according to their requirements. The earlier this remedy is used in a case of Diphtheria, the greater the chance of recovery.

Wherever there is the least suspicion of Diphtheria, it is wise to inject Antitoxin, and to submit a swab for examination. If the latter should prove to be negative, no harm is done, and should it on the other hand be positive, much valuable time has been saved.

Tetanus Antitoxin is supplied by the County Council, Shire Hall, Bedford. Arrangements have also been made for the supply of Botulinus Antitoxin Serum, which can be obtained on application from the Medical Officer of Health, Guild Hall, Cambridge.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases Motor ambulance stationed at Isolation Hospital, and another at the Mogerhanger Sanatorium.

For non-infectious cases ... One motor ambulance at the Biggleswade Police Station

Judging from the experience of previous years, I consider the above arrangements are quite adequate for the needs of the district. There is an understanding among neighbouring Authorities that their ambulances would be available in a case of emergency.

2. Nursing in the Home. (a.) General Nursing.

There is a Nursing Association in Sandy which has about 450 subscribers. The Committee has secured the services of Nurse Murrell to carry on the work of the Association; she attends Maternity, Minor Medical and Surgical cases. For the year under review the nurse has paid nearly 2000 visits on Midwifery, Surgical, Medical, Anti-Natal and Casual cases. The Association is maintained by donations, subscriptions, fees charged to non-subscribers and to maternity cases.

Two years' service under the 1936 Midwives Act has been completed and it is gratifying to relate that this portion of the Association's work has been carried out with the utmost satisfaction to all parties concerned.

Towards the increased cost to the Association of carrying out the Midwifery part of its work, in accordance with the regulations under the Act, a grant is made by the Beds. C.C. as the Supervising Authority of the County.

(b.) Nursing of Cases of Infectious Disease.

There is an Isolation Hospital which takes in cases of infectious disease. Your authority does not provide for nursing in the home for such cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

None in the district. The nearest available are : For Maternity, Child Welfare and Tuberculosis : in Biggleswade. For Venereal Disease : in Bedford.

Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by Local Authorities
or by the County Council.

	Hospital.	Situation.	Authority.	Accommodation.
(1)	Tuberculosis	Mogerhanger Park.....	County Council	84 Beds.
(2)	Maternity	none		
(3)	Children	none		
(4)	Fever	Biggleswade	Jointly with Biggleswade U.D.	22 Beds.
(5)	Smallpox	Biggleswade	Jointly with Biggleswade U.D.	12 Beds.
(6)	Mental	Stotfold	County Council	—
(7)	Infirmary	Biggleswade	Guardian.....	—

3. Midwives.

One midwife notified her intention to practise in your district for the year—Nurse F. J. MURRELL. She is supervised by a Committee appointed by the County Council.

4. Legislation in Force.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS ARE IN FORCE RESPECTING :—

New Streets and Buildings.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Administration.

(1) Water.

RAINFALL.

Month.	Total.	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours. Inches.	Date.	No. of days with .01 or over.	No. of days with .04 or over.
January	2.45	.46	29	7	16
February ...	.34	.13	26	4	5
March	.21	.10	26	0	3
April	.09	.02	1 & 28	7	0
May	1.87	.99	28	3	9
June	.59	.19	1	6	4
July	.94	.23	27	6	7
August	3.17	1.06	12	7	8
September...	1.31	.37	27	9	9
October	2.32	.54	3	2	15
November ...	1.74	.38	25	5	10
December ...	2.49	.53	22	5	12
	17.52			61	98

Average rainfall for England and Wales for 10 years	37.2
Rainfall for England and Wales for 1938	35.6
Average rainfall for Sandy for 10 years	20.8

The whole of your district is supplied by a public main with the exception of some of the outlying farms and the Potton Road beyond the cemetery. The water is obtained from the Biggleswade Water Board by meter and is of excellent quality. The analysis is as follows :

Biggleswade Water Board.

The following is a copy of the Analysis of this Board's water as made by the County Public Health Laboratories :

Analysis of a sample of water received on 19th May, 1939, from Biggleswade Water Board, labelled Clear Water Tap in Iron Removal Plant House, Dated 19/5/39 11a.m. Taken by : T. A. Staniforth. Witness—P. S. Morton. Signed—T. A. Staniforth.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER 100,000

Appearance—Clear and bright.	Odour—Nil.
Colour—Normal.	Free Carbonic Acid—2.2
Reaction pH—Neutral 7.2	Total Solids dried at 180°C—27.0
Electric Conductivity at 20°C—400.	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate—19.0
Chlorine in Chlorides—1.5	Hardness : Total—19.0. Temporary—17.0 Permanent—2.0
Hardness : Total—19.0.	Nitrites—Absent.
Nitrogen in Nitrates—Nil.	Ammoniacal Nitrogen—
Free Ammonia—0.0112.	Albuminoid Nitrogen—
Albuminoid Ammonia—0.0004	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F—0.010
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F—0.010	Metals : Iron—0.005
Metals : Iron—0.005	Zinc, etc.—Absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of Bacteria growing on agar per cc. or ml. in 1 day at 37°C—	5
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 2 days at 37°C—	41
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 3 days at 20°C—	58

The Bacillus Coli	Present in —	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes)	Present in —	Absent in 100 c.c.

REPORT.

This sample is clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is hard in character, although not unduly so, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, no metals apart from a negligible trace of iron, and is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purposes of public supply.

(Signed) E. V. SUCKLING

The Counties Public Health Laboratories,
91, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.

26th May, 1939.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1938.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Sanitary Conditions and other work carried out during the year 1938.

The heavy fall of snow, accompanied with severe frosts in December, created much activity, and despite the exceptionally severe frosts, it is pleasing to place on record that your Council Houses suffered very little from bursts to the water services.

1. Drainage and Sewerage.

The town is sewered along the Main Streets. The sewer runs from the Station Bridge along High Street, down the St. Neots Road as far as The New Inn. Another sewer runs from Brickhill Road, along Cambridge Road, Northcroft, Bedford Road, and the Great North Road. These sewers meet and the sewage is taken to the Sewerage Works where it is treated. There have been no extensions to the sewers this year.

The engines and pumps at the Sewerage Works are working in a satisfactory condition. During the year the engines and pumps have worked an average per day of 8 hours, 31 minutes, as compared with an average of 8 hours, 35 minutes for 1937. The Sewage Works continue to produce a good average effluent despite the increased quantity of sewage dealt with.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The Ivel Internal Drainage Board undertake the cleaning out of all ditches and streams. This has been done satisfactorily.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

There are 957 houses on the water carriage system, 166 earth pails and 7 privies. Where any house is within reasonable distance of the sewer, the water carriage system is installed.

3. (ii) Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse, contents of pail closets and emptying of cesspools is carried out by contract. A regular service has been maintained during the year. The disposal of the refuse is carried out by controlled tipping, and particular attention has been given to this system to ensure good packing and covering.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :

Total number of visits made	...	...	...	...	64,552
Ash-pits emptied	...	...	...	...	—
Ash-boxes emptied	...	...	...	...	58,226
Privies emptied	...	...	...	...	5
Cess-pools emptied	...	...	...	...	30
Pail closets emptied	...	...	...	...	10,912

Loads of refuse and night soil removed	...	...	872
Total cost	...	...	£383 10s. 0d.
Average cost per visit	...	...	1.2d.
Average cost per load removed	...	...	8/9

3. (iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Summary of Inspections.

The following table shows the number of inspections made during the year, for all purposes :

Dwelling houses inspected under the Housing Acts Regulations	12
Ordinary Inspections for housing defects	115
Sanitary routine inspections	238
Inspection of New Buildings in course of erection	274
Inspection of Slaughter-houses and Foodstuffs	109
Visits and re-visits to Council property relating to reported defects and repairs of same	832
Inspection of Factories and Workshops, including Bakehouses...	45
Inspection of Cow sheds and Dairies	33
Inspection of Petroleum Stores	24
Visits re Infectious Disease	8
Rooms disinfected	6
Inspections under Shops Act	22
Other miscellaneous visits	107
	1895

Notices Served.

35 Intimation Notices or letters were sent, dealing with 48 premises. No Statutory Notice was served, most of the defects being remedied by verbal notice.

The following list gives the particulars of the defects remedied or work carried out after the attention of the owner or occupier had been called to same :—

Dwelling Houses.

Roofs and Chimneys repaired	10
Guttering and fall pipes repaired or renewed	10
Floors repaired	0
Dampness remedied	3
Windows repaired or made to open	0
Improved lighting	0
Fire grates repaired or renewed	5
Walls and ceilings repaired	5
Coppers repaired	6
Water pipes and fittings repaired	4

Drains.

Inspection chambers and covers provided	...	...	3
Drains unstopped or repaired	...	...	25
Trapped gullies provided	...	...	0
Cesspools repaired	...	...	6
New cesspools or dumb-wells provided	...	...	2

Closet Accommodation and Ash Receptacles.

New ashbins provided	...	...	19
Sanitary conveniences provided to workshops	...	...	0
Flushing cisterns provided or repaired	...	...	8
New E.C. pails provided	...	...	10
Existing sanitary conveniences repaired	...	...	3
Insanitary privies abolished	...	...	0

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Dairies and Cowsheds cleansed and white-washed	...	...	5
Cowshed floors repaired	...	...	2
Improved water supply	...	...	0
Other contraventions of the Milk & Dairies Order remedied			4

Miscellaneous.

Accumulations of manure or refuse removed	...	...	21
Slaughter-houses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	2
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	6
Pigsties re-conditioned and repaired	...	...	0

The following is a summary of the various defects, etc., which have been dealt with in connection with the Council's houses :

New cooking ranges supplied and fixed	...	...	4
New combination grates supplied and fixed	...	...	2
New coppers supplied and fixed	...	...	15
New dust-bins provided	...	...	28
New E.C. pails provided	...	...	7
New W.C. cisterns provided and fixed	...	...	5
Timber screens erected	...	...	5
New parts to coppers	...	...	13
New parts to cooking ranges	...	...	30
New parts to mantel registers	...	...	1
Fire-bricks for coppers or ranges	...	... (sets)	42
New D.P.C. to walls	...	...	0
Gully channels repaired	...	...	5
Door furniture repaired or renewed	...	...	36
New weatherboards to doors	...	...	0
Gates re-hung or adjusted	...	...	22
Gate catches repaired or renewed	...	...	8
Doors eased or repaired	...	...	34
Fences repaired	...	...	5

Chimney pots fixed	...	...	...	...	4
Concrete pavements repaired or re-laid	...	...	...	...	26
Stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	0
Internal decoration and white-liming	...	...	...	...	10
Distemper supplied	...	...	...	(pkts.)	0
Floors re-laid	...	...	...	...	5
Drains unstopped	...	...	...	...	6
W.C. overflows adjusted and cisterns repaired...	...	...	...	...	38
Water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	25
Sink and bath wastes repaired	...	...	...	...	23
Eaves, gutters and fall pipes cleaned and repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Internal plastering	...	...	...	...	15
New doors supplied and fixed	...	...	...	...	0
Roofs, ridges, etc., repaired	...	...	...	...	20
Repairs to draining boards, flap tables, etc.	...	...	...	...	7
Electrical defects repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	22
Tap washers renewed	...	...	...	...	73

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928.

Petroleum Licences.

25 Licences for the storing of petroleum were renewed on January 1st, 1938. The quantity of petroleum permitted to be kept in licenced stores is 19,900 gallons. All the petrol is stored in steel underground tanks with supply pumps connected thereto.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 42 Factories and Workshops on the register and 82 visits of inspection have been made.

The following is a list of premises on the Register :—

Bakers	...	6	Millers	...	2
Basket-maker	...	1	Motor Engineers	...	3
Blacksmiths	...	2	Plumbers	...	3
Boot Repairers	...	5	Printers	...	2
Carpenters	...	3	Saddlers	...	2
Cinema	...	1	Stone Mason	...	1
Cycle Repairer	...	1	Tailors	...	2
Gas Works	...	1	Wheelwright	...	1
Electrician	...	1	Wireless Repairer	...	1
Joiners	...	3			

All the premises are generally in a satisfactory condition.

3. (iv) Shops and Offices.

Shops Act, 1934.

22 visits have been made under the above Act and 54 shops have been placed on the register. In 5 cases of lock-up shops where the accommodation is restricted, the Council have issued Certificates of Exemption in regard to

the provision of sanitary conveniences. With reference to Circular 1600 of 1/6/37 no action has been found to be necessary.

3. (v) Camping Sites.

1. One site was used for camping purposes during 1938.
2. No licence was issued.
3. The maximum number of campers resident on the site at one time was 48 persons. During the month of December the owner decided to discontinue camping and all the caravan dwellers were given notice to quit.

3. (vi) Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary.

3. (vii) Swimming Baths and Pools.

One public Bathing Pool on the River Ivel. A hut has been erected by the Council with separate dressing accommodation for each sex, together with diving board. The Bathing Huts are provided with sanitary convenience. The site of the bathing place is on a stretch of the river where the banks are clean and the running water appears to be satisfactory.

3. (viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1. (a). Council Houses.
One found to be infested.
- (b). Other Houses.
Two were found to be infested, both were disinfected.
2. Furniture and houses are sprayed with Zaldicide.
3. By the inspection of the tenant's house and his effects.
4. Disinfestation carried out by the Local Authority.
5. Re-inspection and advice given to tenants.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938 for the Urban District of Sandy, in the County of Bedford.

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	4	—	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	42	—	—
‡ Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises).			
‡ Electrical Station should be reckoned as factories. Total ...	46	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	6	6		
Overcrowding (S. 2)				
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) {	insufficient			—
	unsuitable or defective			—
	not separate for sexes			—
Other offences				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.				
Total	6	6		

SECTION D. HOUSING.

Town Planning.

The preparation of the Council's Town Planning Scheme, under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, is proceeding under the direction of the Council's consultant, Mr. W. R. Davidge, of London.

Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935.

Proper and suitable arrangements have been made with the Beds. County Surveyor for the carrying out of the necessary requirements of the above Act.

New Buildings.

During the year 18 plans of proposed new buildings were deposited and approved and the following erected :—

Dwelling-houses	15
Additions to existing dwelling-houses	5
Additions to existing out-buildings	4
Additions and alterations to existing house and shop	—

Five houses were erected to re-house dispossessed tenants under closing orders.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

1. By the Local Authority	5
2. By other Local Authorities	—
3. By other bodies or persons	10

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	12
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	42
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	12
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	24
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. ...	12

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	6
---	---

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	NIL
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	NIL
(b) By local authority in default of owners	NIL

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	15
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	15
(b) By local authority in default of owners	NIL

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	NIL
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	NIL
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	NIL

4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

A.—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	0
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	0
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	0

B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
C.—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	0
D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	0
E.—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	0

SECTION E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a.) Milk Supply.

9 persons are registered under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1925, 7 are cowkeepers and 2 are purveyors only. Two dairymen residing outside the district retail milk within the district.

33 visits have been paid to the 7 cowsheds in the area, generally during milking time. The dairies are also frequently visited. Tests have been made for sediment with the "Sutherland Thomson" Minit Tester with satisfactory results. 3 samples have been taken for bacteriological examination.

(b.) Meat & Other Foods.

There are 2 Slaughter-houses in the area, both are registered, having been in use prior to the passing of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The premises are kept in a satisfactory condition and the regulations are complied with.

During the year 109 visits have been made to the Slaughter-houses and Foodshops, the number of carcasses examined being as follows :

Bovines	...	...	75	Sheep and Lambs...	197
Calves	...	...	2	Pigs	 189

As a result of these inspections the following meat was declared unfit for human consumption and was destroyed :—

1 Pig Head and Collar	...	Tuberculosis
2 Sheeps Livers	...	Parasitic
1 Ox Liver	..	Parasitic
2 Pigs Livers	...	Parasitic

The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The requirements of the above Act continue to be properly observed. Two licences were renewed for a further period of 12 months at a charge of 1/- each.

Carcases Infected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed if known...	Not known.	2	2	197	189
Number inspected	73	2	2	197	189
All Diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases of which some part of organ was con- demned	1	—	—	2	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	1.4%	—	—	1.01%	1.05%
Tuberculosis Only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part of organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.....	—	—	—	—	.52%

Conclusion.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Council for their continued consideration and support that I have received in the execution of my varied duties, and also to the Clerk of the Council and the other officers for their co-operation at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. DOUGLAS, F.S.I.A., F.INST.P.C., A.I.M.E.

Sanitary Inspector.

Council Offices, Sandy, June, 1939.

SCHOOLS.

There are two schools.

1. St. Neots Road School.

Church of England.

Average number on roll	...	188
Average attendances		169

The class rooms (seven in number) are well ventilated and lighted and are heated by radiators and open fires. Water is laid on from the main.

One cloak room is provided for boys with three lavatory basins, also another cloak room for girls with four basins. The basins, in both cases, are of an old type. They are connected with the town sewer.

The inside of the premises is kept in a very clean condition and reflects great credit on the caretaker.

The boys playground is in a much better condition but the surface is still uneven and after a storm there are puddles of water lying about. There is no change in the girls playground. This is badly in need of repair.

The sanitary conveniences are sufficient and are kept in a satisfactory condition. Last year I drew your attention to the fact that there was no bath in the school master's house ; this is an improvement that should be undertaken. I do think the schoolmaster's house should be equal to the accommodation supplied to council houses.

There have been no epidemics of non-notifiable infectious diseases.

2. Laburnum Road Schools.

County Council School. This school was built by the County Council in 1906 and was well planned.

		Mixed.	Infants.
Average number of scholars on roll	...	211	77
Average number of attendances	..	192	67

There is a central hall with six class rooms for mixed children and three for infants arranged round it. The rooms are well lighted and ventilated and heated by radiators. The infant class rooms have an open fire in addition to the radiators. It is lighted by electric light throughout.

There is a cloak room for boys with four washing basins, another for girls with four washing basins, and a third for infants, also with four washing basins, and they all have hot water pipes for drying clothes. Water is laid on from the public mains and the drains are connected to the sewers.

There are five sanitary conveniences for the boys, seven for the girls and five for the infants. Outside there are three playing grounds, all covered with tar-mac. I found everything clean and in a very satisfactory condition.

There have been epidemics of the following non-notifiable infectious diseases : Measles, Chicken Pox and Influenza.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious and Other Diseases.

Arrangements have now been made with other Authorities in Bedfordshire that, in the event of any Isolation Hospital being full, other Isolation Hospitals in the county are prepared, at a fixed charge, to take any infectious disease from the district whose Isolation Hospital is full of any of the diseases which their Isolation Hospital is designed for.

The Biggleswade Isolation Hospital takes cases of Infectious Disease from your district. The following were treated :

On January 1st there were present—

Scarlet Fever 0.	Diphtheria 0.
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Admissions—

Scarlet Fever 2.	Diphtheria 3.
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Discharges—

Scarlet Fever 1.	Diphtheria 3.
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On December 31st—

Scarlet Fever 1.	Diphtheria 0.
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Scarlet Fever.

Two cases were notified, both were removed to the Isolation Hospital. No deaths.

Diphtheria.

Three cases occurred, all removed to the Isolation Hospital. One death.

Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria.

No advantage has been taken of immunisation. The Council are prepared to pay for the serum used.

Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

No cases occurred.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis).

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.
Cases Notified	2	3	...	..
Cases admitted to Hospital	2	3	...	..
Total Deaths	...	1	...	..
Cases under 1 year	...	...	...	..
Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	..
Cases from 1—2 years	...	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 2—3 years	...	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 3—4 years	...	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 4—5 years	...	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 5—10 years	1	1	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	1	...	..
Cases from 10—15 years	1	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 15—20 years	...	1	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 20—35 years	1	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 35—40 years	...	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 45—65 years	1	1	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..
Cases from 65 and upwards	...	...	...	..
Deaths „ „ „	...	...	...	..

Cancer.

Eight deaths occurred—3 males and 5 females. The ages of the three males were 77, 73, and 80. They were all situated in the alimentary canal. The ages of the five females were 70, 78, 74, 56, and 75. One of them was situated in the breast, two belonged to the alimentary canal, one to urinary system and one to the brain.

Prevention of Blindness.

Public Health Act, 1936 (sec. 176). This is undertaken by the County Council.

Tuberculosis.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Sec. 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Age Periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
25	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
and upwards.								
Total	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

In Conclusion.

I should like to express my thanks to Mr. F. W. Western, Clerk to the Council, and his staff, for the help they have given me, also to your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Douglas, whose loyal co-operation has been of the greatest assistance.

I have the honour to remain,
Your obedient servant,

WALTER K. PARBURY,
M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Camb., D.M.R.E. Camb.
Medical Officer of Health.

Sandy, June, 1939.

